<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 12, 14, 24, 25, 29, 30, 33, 35, 37, and 47 and add Claims 49-60 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image ~~and said second image~~, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image.

2. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes said first image and said second image, and said correcting means corrects the first image synthesized by said synthesizing means based on said photographing condition information of the first image ~~and said second image~~.

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3. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said first input means inputs said first image by photographing the first image.

4. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said first input means inputs said first image from an attachable/detachable recording medium.

5. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said first input means inputs said first image via communication means.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said correcting means corrects gradation and hue of said first image~~

An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first

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image corrected by said correcting means and said second image;

wherein said correcting means corrects gradation and hue of said first image.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 further comprising~~

An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image; and

adjusting means for adjusting position and size of said first image to synthesize the adjusted first image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image.

8. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 further comprising display means for displaying said first image and said second image, wherein said synthesizing means uses said display means to perform the synthesizing.

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9. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 further comprising extracting means for extracting an object image from said first image, wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes the extracted object image and said second image.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2~~

An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image; and

wherein said photographing condition information of the first image includes one of an exposure amount and a shutter speed, and a focus amount, a photographing magnification, a lighting light type, and an eye direction.

11. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2,

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further comprising second correcting means for manually correcting said first image.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2~~

An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image, and

wherein said synthesizing means uses auxiliary data concerning shape and position of said first image to synthesize said first image and said second image.

13. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 12 wherein said auxiliary data is either an outline with a predetermined size concerning said first image or mask data.

14. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus ~~according to claim 1~~

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~~or 2 wherein said correcting means corrects gradation and hue of said second image,~~ comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image and said second image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image, and

said correcting means corrects gradation and hue of said second image.

15. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

input means for inputting an image and information concerning the image;

setting means for setting an image conversion mode;

extracting means for extracting an object image from said image based on said information concerning the inputted image; and

processing means for applying a conversion processing to said extracted object image in accordance with said set image conversion mode.

16. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15

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wherein said extracting means extracts the object image from said image based on said information concerning the inputted image and said image conversion mode.

17. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said processing means applies the conversion processing to said extracted object image in accordance with said set conversion mode based on said information concerning the inputted image.

18. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said processing means applies the processing to an area of said image other than the extracted object image.

19. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said processing means replaces said object image with another image based on said information concerning the inputted image and said image conversion mode.

20. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said processing means converts specific color components of said object image to other color components.

21. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said processing means applies a predetermined geometric modification to said object image.

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22. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said processing means adds a predetermined transparent information to converted image data.

23. (Withdrawn) An image processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said extracting means detects a predetermined template model image and similarity of said image to extract said object image.

24. (Currently Amended) An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image and said second image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image.

25. (Currently Amended) An image processing method according to claim 24 wherein said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing said first image and said second

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image, and said correcting step comprises correcting the first image synthesized by said synthesizing step based on said photographing condition information of the first image ~~and said second image~~.

26. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25 wherein said first input step comprises inputting said first image by photographing the first image.

27. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25 wherein said first input step comprises inputting said first image from an attachable/detachable recording medium.

28. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25 wherein said first input step comprises inputting said first image via a communication step.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25~~ An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image,

wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said

photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step

comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second

image,

wherein said correcting step comprises correcting gradation and hue of said

first image.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing method according to claim 24~~

~~or 25 further comprising~~ An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the

first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image; and

an adjusting step of adjusting position and size of said first image to synthesize

the adjusted first image, wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said

photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step

comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second

image.

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31. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25 further comprising a display step of displaying said first image and said second image, wherein said synthesizing step uses said display step to perform the synthesizing.

32. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25 further comprising an extracting step of extracting an object image from said first image, wherein said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the extracted object image and said second image.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25~~ An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image, and

wherein said photographing condition information of the first image includes

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one of an exposure amount and a shutter speed, and a focus amount, a photographing

magnification, a lighting light type, and an eye direction.

34. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 24 or 25,

further comprising a second correction step of manually correcting said first image.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~An image processing method according to claim 24~~

~~or 25~~ An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the

first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image,

wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said

photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step

comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second

image, and

wherein said synthesizing step uses auxiliary data concerning shape and

position of said first image to synthesize said first image and said second image.

36. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 35 wherein

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said auxiliary data is either an outline with a predetermined size concerning said first image or mask data.

37. (Currently Amended) An image processing method ~~according to claim 24 or 25 wherein said correcting step comprises correcting gradation and hue of said second image~~, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image and said second image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image, and

said correcting step comprises correcting gradation and hue of said second image.

38. (Withdrawn) An image processing method, comprising:

an input step of inputting an image and information concerning the image;

a setting step of setting an image conversion mode;

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an extracting step of extracting an object image from said image based on said information concerning the inputted image; and

a processing step of applying a conversion processing to said extracted object image in accordance with said set image conversion mode.

39. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said extracting step comprises extracting the object image from said image based on said information concerning the inputted image and said image conversion mode.

40. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said processing step comprises applying the conversion processing to said extracted object image in accordance with said set conversion mode based on said information concerning the inputted image.

41. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said processing step comprises applying the processing to an area of said image other than the extracted object image.

42. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said processing step comprises replacing said object image with another image based on said information concerning the inputted image and said image conversion mode.

43. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein

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said processing step comprises converting specific color components of said object image to other color components.

44. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said processing step comprises applying a predetermined geometric modification to said object image.

45. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said processing step comprises adding a predetermined transparent information to converted image data.

46. (Withdrawn) An image processing method according to claim 38 wherein said extracting step comprises detecting a predetermined template model image an similarity of said image to extract said object image.

47. (Currently Amended) A recording medium which stores a program for an image processing apparatus said program, comprising the steps of:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting means for step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image,

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wherein

said correcting step corrects said first image based on said photographing

condition information of the first image ~~and said second image~~, and said synthesizing step

synthesizes the first image corrected in said correcting step and said second image.

48. (Withdrawn) A recording medium which stores a program for an image

processing apparatus, said program comprising the steps of:

an input steps of inputting an image and information concerning the image;

a setting step of setting an image conversion mode;

an extracting step of extracting an object image from said image based on said

information concerning the inputted image; and

a processing step of applying a conversion processing to said extracted object

image in accordance with said set image conversion mode.

49. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the

first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image,

wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing

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condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image;

wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes said first image and said second image, and said correcting means corrects the first image synthesized by said synthesizing means based on said photographing condition information of the first image; and

wherein said correcting means corrects gradation and hue of said first image.

50. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image;

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image; and

adjusting means for adjusting position and size of said first image to synthesize the adjusted first image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image;

wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes said first image and said second image, and said correcting means corrects the first image synthesized by said synthesizing means based on said photographing condition information of the first image.

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51. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image;

wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes said first image and said second image, and said correcting means corrects the first image synthesized by said synthesizing means based on said photographing condition information of the first image; and

wherein said photographing condition information of the first image includes one of an exposure amount and a shutter speed, and a focus amount, a photographing magnification, a lighting light type, and an eye direction.

52. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

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correcting means for correcting said first image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image;

wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes said first image and said second image, and said correcting means corrects the first image synthesized by said synthesizing means based on said photographing condition information of the first image; and

wherein said synthesizing means uses auxiliary data concerning shape and position of said first image to synthesize said first image and said second image.

53. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 52, wherein said auxiliary data is either an outline with a predetermined size concerning said first image or mask data.

54. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

first input means for inputting a first image;

second input means for inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

third input means for inputting a second image;

correcting means for correcting said first image and said second image; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing said first image and said second image,

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wherein

       said correcting means corrects said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing means synthesizes the first image corrected by said correcting means and said second image,

       said synthesizing means synthesizes said first image and said second image, and said correcting means corrects the second image synthesized by said synthesizing means based on said photographing condition information of the first image and said second image, and

       said correcting means corrects gradation and hue of said second image.

       55. (New) An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

       a third input step of inputting a second image;

       a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

       a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image,

wherein

       said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image,

       wherein said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing said first image and said

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second image, and said correcting step comprises correcting the first image synthesized by said synthesizing step based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and

wherein said correcting step comprises correcting gradation and hue of said first image.

56. (New) An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image; and

adjusting means for adjusting position and size of said first image to synthesize the adjusted first image, wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image,

wherein said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing said first image and said second image, and said correcting step comprises correcting the first image synthesized by said synthesizing step based on said photographing condition information of the first image.

57. (New) An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the

first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image,

wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said

photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step

comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second

image,

wherein said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing said first image and said

second image, and said correcting step comprises correcting the first image synthesized by

said synthesizing step based on said photographing condition information of the first

image, and

wherein said photographing condition information of the first image includes

one or an exposure amount and a shutter speed, and a focus amount, a photographing

magnification, a lighting light type, and an eye direction.

58. (New) An image processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the

first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image, wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image,

wherein said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing said first image and said second image, and said correcting step comprises correcting the first image synthesized by said synthesizing step based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and

wherein said synthesizing step uses auxiliary data concerning shape and position of said first image to synthesize said first image and said second image.

59. (New) An image processing method according to Claim 58, wherein said auxiliary data is either an outline with a predetermined size concerning said first image or mask data.

60. (New) An input processing method, comprising:

a first input step of inputting a first image;

a second input step of inputting photographing condition information of the

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first image;

a third input step of inputting a second image;

a correcting step of correcting said first image and said second image; and

a synthesizing step of synthesizing said first image and said second image,

wherein

said correcting step comprises correcting said first image based on said photographing condition information of the first image, and said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing the first image corrected by said correcting step and said second image,

said synthesizing step comprises synthesizing said first image and said second image, and said correcting step comprises correcting the second image synthesized by said synthesizing step based on said photographing condition information of the first image and said second image, and

said correcting step comprises correcting gradation and hue of said second image.